

The Savannah River Site Environmental Bulletin

June 12, 2013

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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY The Second Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) for the Revision 1 TNX Area Operable Unit Record of Decision

The Second Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) for the Revision 1 TNX Area Operable Unit Record of Decision is being issued by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the lead agency for the Savannah River Site (SRS), with concurrence by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 4 (EPA), and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC). The purpose of this ESD provides a remedial change to the TNX Area Operable Unit (AOU) selected remedy, allowing for a transition from active treatment of the solvent contamination in the groundwater using an air stripper, to a passive treatment using the existing groundwater well network and edible oil treatment. The edible oil treatment remedy provides a carbon source to promote microbial activity and the degradation of solvents in the groundwater. Based on the demonstrated effectiveness of the edible oil treatability study of groundwater solvent contamination at TNXAOU, this ESD documents a remedy change that continues to be protective of the groundwater. The original Record of Decision Remedial Alternative Selection for the TNX Area Operable Unit (U), Revision 1, was issued in 2003.

The ESD was completed to meet the terms of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), a law governing the investigation and cleanup of waste units. The DOE has worked with the EPA and the SCDHEC to ensure the remedial approach is consistent with all applicable environmental requirements.

The TNXAOU is situated in the southwestern portion of SRS, approximately one quarter-mile east of the Savannah River. The TNXAOU consists of four waste units: the Old TNX Seepage Basin, New TNX Seepage Basin; TNX Burying Ground; and the TNX Groundwater beneath the surface units. The TNXAOU has been deactivated and decommissioned with a soil cap placed over the area. Past operations within the TNX AOU resulted in solvent contamination of the vadose zone and the groundwater.

Copies of the ESD are available in the Administrative Record. The Administrative Record is available in the information repositories listed below:

- DOE Public Reading Room at the Gregg-Graniteville Library at the University of South Carolina (USC)-Aiken campus in Aiken, SC; and
- Thomas Cooper Library Government Documents Department at USC in Columbia, SC.

Hard copies of the ESD are available at the following locations:

- Reese Library at Georgia Regents University in Augusta, GA; and
- Asa H. Gordon Library at Savannah State University in Savannah, GA.

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The SRS Environmental Bulletin

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